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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

AMERICA

Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Vol. I, 1911. Maps, ills., index. Published by the Association. $3 unbound; $3.50 bound. Richard E. Dodge, Editor, Washington, Conn. 10½ x 7½.

The first volume of the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* appeared this spring with date 1911, the year of the Pittsburg meeting (Dec. 1910, Jan. 1911). Though introduced by Cowles's interesting Presidential address on the causes of vegetational cycles, the main feature of the issue is W. M. Davis's "Colorado Front Range," the newest and most elaborate of the studies in physiographic presentation that have almost wholly occupied Professor Davis of late years. It is also the clearest and most convincing, unless the present writer is biased unduly by having been on the ground with the author at the time of these studies.

It is undoubtedly the best account of the region, a result to which Professor Davis's quite unique sketches contribute very much. Professor Davis would make all geographers his debtors if he could expound the method of his sketching. An item of much interest is the generously recognized work of A. F. Marvine, done nearly half a century ago. Briefer papers are Brooks's "Alaska Coal," adequate to supply the whole Pacific coast for a long period, but for "our unfortunate public land policy"; Atwood's "Mesa Verde," Fassig's "Climate of Porto Rico" and C. A. Davis's "Salt Marshes.' The last fifty pages consist of titles and abstracts of papers presented to the Association from 1904 to 1910, a valuable list, and it would have been still more so had the editor given in more cases the reference to the place of publication of papers.

The publication is in excellent form (7¾ by 10½ inches), well printed on good paper with wide margins. It is an admirable volume and invites wide attention to the future publications of the Association. MARK JEFFERSON.

In Northern Labrador. By William B. Cabot. xii and 292 pp. Maps, ills., appendix. Richard G. Badger, Boston, 1912. $2.50. 9 x 6.

This book is the record of several summer trips to northern Labrador, mostly along the Assiwaban River. The bleak glaciated topography, the hot summer days with their hordes of mosquitoes, the northern Indian and the Eskimo are made real by the author's descriptions.

Mr. Cabot could speak the local dialects. His admiration and good will are for the Eskimo rather than the Indian. The former he regards as industrious, peaceable and trustworthy in contrast to the Indian. Here especially the customs are mainly an outgrowth of the environment. "Death comes from the northeast" is the description of the raw, damp northeast winds. A green branch hung on a pole gives the time when the last travelers passed; the length of time is inferred by the withering of the foliage.

It is fortunate that the author's knowledge of geology enables him to convey to his reader a correct idea of the bare, smoothed surfaces, erratics and the glacial lakes and streams. The statement (page 3) that "six thousand years may well cover the time since the ice departed" is bold indeed; professional geologists, as far as the reviewer's knowledge goes, have not been able to estimate post-glacial time so closely. The drowned coast with the "runs" behind the submerged islands gives easy sailing and fishing and leaves a line of